

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/09201

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
IPC 7	B65H5/08	B65H5/10	B65H29/24	H01M8/24	B65H5/12
	H01M8/00	B65H5/04			

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B65H H01M H08M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 227 541 B1 (RHODES BRIAN K ET AL) 8 May 2001 (2001-05-08) column 4, line 22 - line 39; figures -----	1,15
X	US 6 139 004 A (COENEN JOSEPH D ET AL) 31 October 2000 (2000-10-31) column 4, line 8 - line 29; figures -----	1,15
X	US 5 087 025 A (HAMADA SHINGO) 11 February 1992 (1992-02-11) column 3, line 52 - column 4, line 50; figures 2,3 column 7, line 18 - column 8, line 22; figures 4A-4C -----	1,15
A	column 3, line 52 - column 4, line 50; figures 2,3 column 7, line 18 - column 8, line 22; figures 4A-4C -----	2,16,36, 57
A	WO 02/42191 A (3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES CO) 30 May 2002 (2002-05-30) the whole document -----	1,15,36
	-/-	

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

1 June 2004

29.09.04

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 1 130 471 A (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD) 5 September 2001 (2001-09-05) -----	

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-3,15-17,36,57-61

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-3,15-17,36,57-61

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film provided in a container

2. claims: 4,5,18-20

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film from a source position comprising a translatable position

3. claims: 6,8,9,25,26,37-52,55

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film with a surface operatively connected to a source of vacuum

4. claims: 7,21-24

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film with a surface comprising an arcuate surface

5. claims: 10,28,29,53,54,56

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film from a first surface to a second surface comprising a thin film release mechanism

6. claims: 11,30,31,35

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film comprising a membrane

7. claims: 12-14,32-34

Method and apparatus for transferring a thin film provided in a viscous solution

8. claim: 27

Apparatus for transferring a thin film from a source position to a target position

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/09201

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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			DE 10084746 T0		31-10-2002
			GB 2367812 A ,B		17-04-2002
			MX PA02000388 A		02-07-2002
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			JP 7094292 B		11-10-1995
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			AU 5713101 A		03-06-2002
			CA 2427891 A1		30-05-2002
			EP 1335873 A1		20-08-2003
			JP 2004514621 T		20-05-2004
			WO 0242191 A1		30-05-2002
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			EP 1130471 A2		05-09-2001
			US 2001013928 A1		16-08-2001